करने की योजना है। गुजरात राज्य में ऐसी सेवा 1992 के उत्तरार्द्ध में शुरू करने का कार्यक्रम है। यद्यपि, भोपाल में उपग्रह से जोड़ने की सुविधा पूरी होने वाली है तथापि, मध्यप्रदेश राज्य में ऐसी सेवा शुरू करना पर्याप्त अंतरिक्ष खंड क्षमता की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करेगा।

Committees on Privatisaton of Electronic Media

2423. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Committees formed to look into privatisation of electronic media have submitted their reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) The report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on introduction of competition in the Electronic Media is under the active consideration of the Government. The main recommendations are annexed in the Statement.

Statement

Main recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee on introducing Competition in the Electronic Media.

The Committee acknowledges the need for introducing competition in the electronic media.

2. The Committee has listed out the various options available to the Government for introducing competition, ranking them in the following order of priority:

(a) Setting up of new TV/Radio channels for regional broadcast may be allowed in the different parts of the country subject to viability of operations including suitable linkage for inter-regional network.

(b) Second channel of Doordarshan in the four metropolitan cities and additional radio channels including FM stations wherever available may also simultanously be leased out to suitable licencees after passage of suitable legislation.

(c) Permission may be given to one agency or consortium to set up a series of transmitters in the country. This option will rank only next to the option at (a) above).

(d) Leasing out a particular time chunk from existing TV/Radio channels is not recommended.

(e) Option of licencees leasing a transponder on a satellite is appropriate for developmental or educational telecast and may be considered by Government when spare segment on satellite becomes available.

3. Selection of agencies for grant of licence should be done by an independent agency which could be called Broadcasting Council and be comprised of eminent public men with unimpeachable probity.

4. Organisations eligible to receive licences should be public limited companies with major interest groups concerned with broadcasting represented in management and with open access to shareholding.

5. Cross Media restrictions to avoid monopoly over information sources suggested.

6. Preference may be given to public bodies like Universities, cooperative institutions, etc. in the matter of grant of licence in their area of operation.

7. Guidelines for programmes spelt out, e.g. advertisements to conform to the advertisement code of AIR/ Doordarshan, no programme to offend the religious sentiments of any group, be prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India, etc. or infringe the provisions of the Copyright Act.

8. System of quality rating and procedure for redressal of complaints suggested.

9. The Broadcasting Council of India be vested, through suitable legislation, with the functions of licensing, monitoring of programmes, quality rating and redressal of complaints.

10. New legislation to govern the setting up and operation of additional broadcast channels be enacted.

South Asia, News Bureau by Cable News Network

2424. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the Cable News Network (CNN) International to establish a South Asia News Bureau in Delhi;

(b) if so, terms and conditions thereof?

(c) whether the transmission on Cable networks is being presently done without Government's permission or knowledge;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the sphers where there is scope for complementary role for the CNN *vis-a-vis* Doordarshan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The establishment of Cable TV Networks with or without Dish-Antennae Systems is regulated, at present, under Indian Telegraph Act 1885 and Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act 1933 and the Rules made thereunder administered by Ministry of Communications. While no permission is required to lay Cables within the private premises, a dish-antenna system can be set up only after obtaning licence from the Government.

(e) There is none except in the field of exchanges of New stories.

Last Minute changes in Doordarshan Programmes

2425. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to the Doordarshan viewers due to the last minute changes in the announced programmes;

(b) whether Government have any statistics to analyse the frequency of the last-minute changes in the announced programmes on Doordarshan;

(c) how many days in advance Doordarshan authorities issue the programme schedule to News Papers for publication; and

(d) what Government propose to do to minimise the inconvenience caused to the viewers due to changes in the programme schedule?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Doordarshan only 5 per cent of the programmes are changed at the last minute due to programme exigencies and unavoidable reasons.